

How many people with learning disabilities are using communications technology?



Communications technology means things like the internet, smartphones and tablet computers.



An Ofcom EasyRead report of:
Disabled consumers' use of communications services.
A Consumer Experience Report.
2015



About this report

This is an EasyRead report about how people with learning disabilities are using communications technology.



Communications Technology means things like the internet, smartphones and tablet computers.



Ofcom (the Office of Communications) wrote this report.



Ofcom makes sure that TV, telephone, mobile and internet companies stick to the rules and run a good service.



We also make sure disabled people are not forgotten.



So we wanted to find out if disabled people are using communications technology as much as people without a disability.



This includes people with learning disabilities.



We asked a company called BPS to go and ask people about what technology they use.





We also asked if people had a disability, including people with a learning disability.



We then added up all the numbers.



This helped us see if disabled people are using different types of technology more or less than before.



This EasyRead report tells you how many people with learning disabilities are using communications technology and if that is more or less than other people.



We wrote a big report about all of this.



You can see the big report on our website: www.ofcom.org.uk



If you would like more information, please contact us using the details on **page 10**.



About people with learning disabilities

What we found out about the people in our survey:



People with learning disabilities in our survey were more likely to be younger - half are under 35 years old.



Half of people with learning disabilities live in houses with three or more people.



Far more people with learning disabilities don't have a job.



1 out of every 4 people with learning disabilities don't work because they have a disability.

This is more than groups of people with any other disability.

Using the internet



What we found:

People with learning disabilities don't have access to the internet as much as people without a disability.



Those people with learning disabilities who do use it, use it less often than people without a disability.



Just as many people with learning disabilities use their mobiles to get onto the internet as people without a disability.



They do not use the internet at home as much.



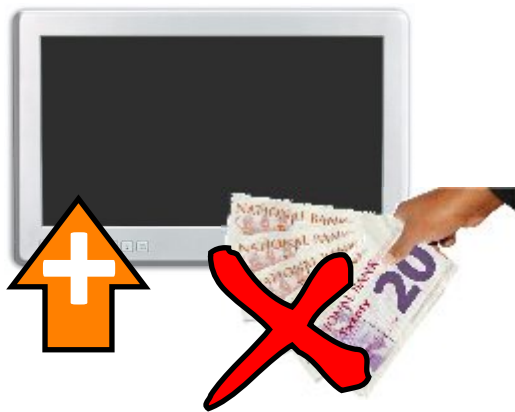
More people with learning disabilities use the internet to play games than people without a disability.

Other technologies

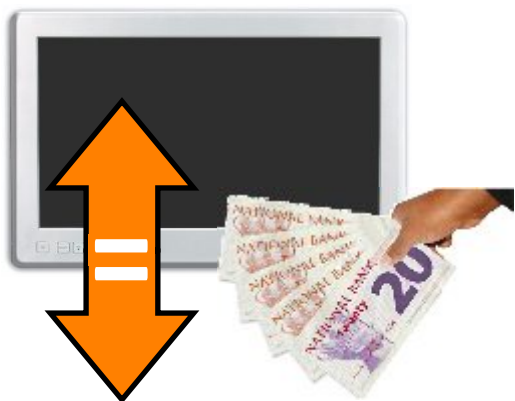


What we found:

Nearly half of people with learning disabilities have games consoles like Nintendo, Xbox and PlayStations in their homes, this is more than people without a disability.



More people with learning disabilities have free TV in their homes than people without a disability.



They are also just as likely to have pay TV in their homes as people without a disability.



People with learning disabilities are just as likely to have a mobile phone or a landline in their home as people without a disability.



But the phones they use are less likely to be smartphones that can connect to the internet.



People with learning disabilities are just as likely to have a tablet, like an iPad, in their own homes as people without a disability.



But they are less likely to have a PC or laptop.

DAB
Digital Audio Broadcasting



People with learning disabilities are just as likely to have a DAB (digital) radio at home as other people.

Having a disability and using technology



What we found:

Less people with learning disabilities use a landline than other disabled people.



More people with learning disabilities use a tablet or iPad than other disabled people.



But 1 out of every 10 people with learning disabilities said they can't use a tablet because of their disability.



3 out of every 10 people with learning disabilities said their disability stops them using communications technology.

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